

Washington Research Foundation announces new chairman of its board of directors

Thomas J. Cable, co-founder of the Washington Research Foundation (WRF), has stepped down as chairman of the foundation's board of directors. The position will be filled by C. Kent Carlson, a current WRF board member and partner with the global law firm K&L Gates. Mr. Cable will continue to actively serve as vice chairman on WRF's board.

Mr. Cable founded WRF in 1981 with William Gates II and the late W. Hunter Simpson to assist universities and other nonprofit research organizations in the state of Washington with the commercialization of their technologies. He is the longest-tenured member of the board, having served in that capacity since the foundation's inception. Ron Howell, Washington Research Foundation's CEO, stated, "In the early 1980s, Tom, well before the general acceptance of technology transfer, recognized the need for the universities in Washington to protect and exploit their intellectual property discoveries and he led the creation of an organization to accomplish these goals." Mr. Howell described Mr. Cable as having been "completely selfless with his time and efforts in transforming WRF from its difficult early days into a very successful licensing and research grant making foundation, one that has returned over \$320 million to the University of Washington alone. Tom has been a key driving force behind the many reorganizations of WRF, and has been my friend and mentor for many years. He is handing the foundation over to Kent in very good shape."

Mr. Carlson was counsel to WRF from 1993 until election as a board member in 2006. He is active in the legal community, serving as a long-term member of Washington State Bar Association Business Section committees, a regular speaker at continuing legal education programs, and a former director and president of the University of Washington Law School Foundation Board. His other civic activities include serving as vice chair of the Washington State Arts Commission, and as a member of the board of trustees of both Cornish College of the Arts and Pilchuck Glass School. Recently, Mr. Carlson was named the *Best Lawyers in America 2011* Seattle M&A Lawyer of the Year.

Washington Research Foundation

2815 Eastlake Avenue East, Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98102